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6-27-1974

### June 27, 1974

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Foresight need  
for our nation  
page 3



# CHRISTIAN CITIZEN: AMERICA NEEDS YOU

Observe Christian Citizenship Sunday/June 30/1974

Sponsored by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

June 27, 1974  
*Arkansas Baptist*  
NEWSMAGAZINE

# Future shock at the Dallas-Ft. Worth airport



Dr. Grant

The new, ultramodern Dallas-Ft. Worth Regional Airport can give a good case of future shock to innocent visitors. Mrs. Grant and I recently drove to Dallas to catch a plane for San Francisco where I was scheduled to deliver the Commencement address at Golden Gate Seminary. We planned to park our car at the Dallas-Ft. Worth Airport to have it available when we returned to Dallas for the meeting of

the Southern Baptist Convention.

Carrying out this mission might have been simple for a veteran city slicker, but for an Arkansas country boy it turned out to be quite an operation. My first mistake was in assuming that it would be easy to find "the world's largest airport." After several near misses, we finally found the 17,500 acres of airport and entered from the south. We planned to drive close to the terminal, unload our baggage, then drive to the remote parking area and return to the terminal by the computer-operated AIRTRANS.

As we drove along the multiple-lane drive to the various airlines' terminals, we could not decide whether we had too much or too little help from the airport designers. More directional signs confronted us than one driver could handle, certainly for one who has my tendency toward fast driving and slow reading. I felt like the child on the merry-go-round grabbing for the ring. What seemed to be the most likely turnoff for the terminal building should have had a sign reading "Abandon hope all who enter here." Following our first ill-fated effort to find an unloading place, we were ejected back on to the multiple-lane drive to the terminal buildings and enjoyed a beautiful circle tour of the airport before returning for another chance to find the right turnoff. It took us only two more times around, so I suppose a batting average of one for three is not too bad, especially in a strange ball park. Our adventures continued after unloading and checking our baggage through to San Francisco, for we had to find the remote parking area and return via AIRTRANS to the terminal building and departure lounge. Getting on and off the right AIRTRANS at the right time and place is something else. These modern little rail cars are computer operated, and the abundance of directional signs caused us to miss two cars while making sure that we had read and followed all of the directions properly. I almost expected to hear the voice of the captain informing us "This AIRTRANS is being operated according to plan . . . to plan . . . to plan . . . to plan."

In San Francisco the following day we could not avoid comparing the computerized AIRTRANS ride with the old-fashioned cable car that we rode up and down the steep hills of this Golden Gate City. Frankly I am not sure which frightened me more, the computer in the AIRTRANS or the young "grip man" who

drove the cable car. I am still too young to die, either in a computer-operated vehicle of the future, or a hand-operated cable car of the past. — Daniel R. Grant, President, Ouachita Baptist University

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# Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

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## Taking the long look for our nation



Editor Sneed

long look.

The ideals of the men who gained our liberty were in perspective. These men were interested in freedom more than life itself. The cry "Give me liberty or give me death," was more than idle words. True life to these people meant a free government, with a free church, conducted by men who are free.

Obviously, many of the events of recent days have chipped away at our freedom. Apparently, some have placed self-gain above national interest, whereas, those who endeared the events of the Revolutionary War and felt the cold of Valley Forge, were seeking to provide a future for others.

Sometime ago, Princeton University restored a most unusual clock which had been found in 1771. It showed not only the hour and the day of the month but, also, the century.

The perspective is exceedingly important on this anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Often, we become so involved in the events of the moment that we forget to take the

If we follow our present course, what will be the end result? Planning for the future not only will bring a better tomorrow, but will cause us to make better use of today. As our forefathers produced the historic document on which our nation has rested these many years, they not only passed a blessing to us, but strengthened the day in which they lived.

It well may be that our generation is more on trial than we have ever been. Not only is our survival at stake, but the future of other nations of the world may be determined by our actions.

The most crucial question this Independence Day is "How can we assure our future?" The past teaches us that honesty, courage, and foresight are required. This and much more can be achieved as we commit ourselves to Christ.

No nation can long survive apart from Christian ideals. The best we can give to our nation today and to the generations of the future is to commit ourselves completely to Christ and his purposes.

What will the future generations say of us, our planning, the length of our vision, and the heritage which we are passing on to them? The long look demands that we totally commit ourselves to our Master. As we do this the future is certain.

### Guest editorial

## Christian citizen: America needs you!

"Stay away." That was the counsel of former White House Staff Member Gordon Strachan when asked if he had any advice for young people regarding politics. No Christian can heed these words and remain true to either the concept of democracy or the Christian faith.

Christian Citizenship Sunday, June 30, 1974, offers Southern Baptist churches an opportunity to focus upon what it means to be a Christian citizen. "Christian Citizen: America Needs You!" is the theme of this special Sunday on the denominational calendar.

From every church and political precinct in our nation the call is for active political involvement for persons with integrity so public confidence in government may be restored.

Last year, hundreds of churches found the observance of Christian Citizenship Sunday to be a most significant experience. Sermons and programs on Christian citizenship, visits from local representatives in government, workshops on political involvement, and other similar activities can be beneficial. Local congregations may consider how to have a greater impact on the political processes of the community. Christians have been inspired to assume a more active

role in government affairs as well as to be better informed on methods of involvement.

America can benefit from the suggestions, opinions, and new ideas of Christian citizens. A sense of divine commission leads Christians into the political process. Convictions inspired by the Bible and actions shaped by the Spirit of Christ can be tremendously influential in that mix of political partisanship, economic realism, and legislative expediency out of which governmental decisions are made and national legislation formulated.

Long ago the French statesman Alexis de Tocqueville observed, "America is great because America is good" and warned, "If America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great." Christians are charged with the responsibility of good citizenship not only that the nation may be good and thus great, but even more importantly, that the Lordship of Christ may be extended into this all-important area of life and that God may be glorified through us.

Plan to observe Christian Citizenship Sunday, June 30. America needs Christian citizens! — C. Welton Gaddy, Director of Christian Citizenship Development, Christian Life Commission of the SBC

I must say it!

## Facing reality at budget time



Dr. Ashcraft

Legend has it that an Arkansas farmer placed green opticals on his mule hoping this animal would eat sawdust thinking it was grass. The story ends, as did the mule, about the time the farmer thought his animal was adjusting well to the new diet. The supreme mistake was a failure to face reality.

While hope entertains hope so long as God is alive, the refusal to face reality remains one thing which defies all hope. God cannot help anyone who refuses to confront reality. Green glasses, rose-colored spectacles, or mirages do not change the topography, geography or realness of the landscape or anything else in range.

Among the most real of the really real entities in life are figures, sometimes referred to as mathematics. It involves adding, subtracting, multiplying and computing. These terms relate to receipts, disbursements, gains, losses, deficits and overages. Creditors, bankers, IRS people are very exacting in the science of figures.

From real figures we gain some real absolutes which demand the attention of someone on the planning level of life. For example, two can easily live for

the price of one but only half as long. Young married couples hoping to live on love have found that twice the consumption of groceries reduces their life-span by one-half. This is quite real and remains true from paycheck to paycheck.

Now, let's have the hard-nosed conclusion of this inference. There is not enough money for everyone to have all he wishes. There are many children in the family. All have basic needs which must be provided for basic survival and other needs for development, increased production and expansion.

Since there is not enough money to meet all needs at the same time the matter of urgency, priority and existing commitments must be weighed. Someone must weigh these pressing needs and make recommendations for expenditures. That which cannot be done this year can be placed on a standby waiting list where each need in its turn can be considered another year.

Churches, homes, institutions and governments are controlled by this procedure, so are individuals. It is not asking too much of mature people to face the realness of facts and live with them.

*I must say it!* — Charles H. Ashcraft, Executive Secretary

## Letters to the editor

### Clinic needs sheets

I have been in recent contact with Clarence Allison, a graduate of Ouachita and a former pastor from our state and now a missionary in Nairobi, Kenya.

Clarence has indicated a need for some old, used sheets to be used in a medical clinic in Nairobi for draping cloths, cleaning wounds, and for the patients to use while waiting their turn to see the doctor.

Perhaps some WMU or church or other group in our state would like to provide some of these supplies where they will be put to good use by our missionaries in Kenya. If some group is interested in doing so and will contact our office in the Baptist Building, I will be happy to give them shipping instructions so that the materials will reach the missionaries promptly and without other problems. —Roy F. Lewis, Secretary of Stewardship-Cooperative Program, Arkansas Baptist State Convention

### Missionaries on field

As you know, my wife Connie and I were appointed to serve on the foreign mission field in Israel on July 10, 1973. We planned to leave for the field on Monday, June 3rd, and wanted all of our

friends here in Arkansas to know that we had finally left.

We have served churches in Arkansas, Kentucky, and Alabama. We plan to spend our furloughs here in Arkansas and plan to return in four years. We will be spending the next year, or so, at Heiber University in Jerusalem, where we will begin language study in July. Our address is P. O. Box 154, Jerusalem, Israel. We would welcome letters from our fellow Baptists and would want them to look us up when they come to visit Israel. We ask for your prayers as we try to witness for Jesus in that part of the world. After our language study we plan to be living either in Nazareth or some other city in Galilee, as we major in Arab evangelism and church development. —John F. Anthony

### Seeks former pastors

Wardell Church, Joiner, in preparation for a homecoming July 14, is seeking the addresses of the following former pastors: George Priddy, O. R. Richey, Doyle Cruch, Warren Alsup, a Rev. Meadows, a Rev. Hinesley, James Sanders, A. H. Hefner, Everette Crites, and Ray Horse. Replies should be sent to Mrs. Billy Childers, Rt. 1, Joiner, Ark. 72350.

## Deaths

**Elzie E. Boone**, pastor of Wynne Church, died June 13. He had been superintendent of missions of Tri-County Association, and pastor of churches at Arkadelphia, Emmett, and Ft. Worth. He was a graduate of Ouachita University and held the masters degree from Southwestern Seminary. He was a veteran of WWII. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Emogene Tittle Boone.

**Norman Wright**, pastor, Fitzgerald Church, was killed instantly Saturday evening by a bolt of lightning near his home. Standing near a tree in his yard about 7:45 p.m. when the lightning struck. Wright, who was 31, was born at McCrory, attended McCrory schools, graduated from McCrory High School and attended Ouachita University.

He was former pastor of churches at Monroe, Gregory, Mt. Moriah near Murfreesboro, and Cass near Ozark. He had been pastor of the Fitzgerald Church for two years. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Judy Wilson Wright, a son, Curtis Hill Wright, Wynne, and his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Henry Wright of McCrory.

**Revivals**

**Indian Head Lake Church** (mission of Amboy), North Little Rock, May 26-June 2; Ken Freemyer, evangelist, Jimmy Walker, music director; nine professions of faith, four baptisms, three by letter, one by statement.

**Lakeside, Hot Springs**, June 2-9; 18 professions of faith; Clarence Shell Jr., evangelist, Herbert "Red" Johnson, singer. J. W. Whitley is pastor.

**Doctrinally speaking**

**I didn't find him up there**

By **Ralph W. Davis**  
Second in a series



Davis

After the Russian cosmonaut, Popovich, returned from space, he said that he looked for God in space, but did not find him. Immediately after his announcement, the Editor of the Arkansas Gazette wrote, "With the voice of atheist Russia, Cosmonaut Pavel R. Popovich told a television audience that on his space trip he failed to see God. What did he think he was seeing when he saw the universe? He couldn't be expected to see God as a material being positioned somewhere in space. In saying he did not see God he speaks as an ignorant savage might speak."

Jesus told his disciples that "a spirit has not flesh and bones." But we do have flesh and bones! Jesus told the woman at the well that "God is spirit." There is no "a" in the verse. The very essence of God's being is spirit. Paul speaks of God in 1 Timothy 1:17 as "immortal, invisible, the only God." God does not have a body. Spirit is an immaterial substance, invisible, indestruc-

tible. Matter is limited and changeable. God is spirit. He has none of the properties belonging to matter. He cannot be discerned by the bodily senses. In 1 Timothy 6:15-16 Paul speaks of God as "the King of Kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see; to whom be honour and power everlasting."

What crosses our minds when we think about God? One person acknowledged that he visualized "a sacred blur." A child may think of an old man with a white beard. We human beings of "flesh and bones" cannot grasp the meaning of "spirit." All of our thoughts of God are fatal unless we begin with Christ.

In Jesus Christ God the spirit became God in human flesh. In Christ God was himself appearing in human life. Jesus Christ was not one-third God; neither was he half God and half man. He was complete God and complete man. Jesus Christ was not an emissary from God. In Jesus Christ we have God himself.

As we wrote last week, if we want to know what God is like, let us see what Jesus Christ is like.



**Day of Prayer  
for  
Associational Missions  
July 14, 1974**

The above logo was designed for use in promotion of a Day of Prayer for Associational Missions in all churches on Sunday, July 14. It locates the church at the center of Cooperative Baptist Missions and the association as one of the major agencies of denominational life and work along with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. It is hoped that all Baptists in the state will become familiar with the logo and its symbolism. — R. H. Dorris, Director of Missions



**TO THE NATIONS**  
Through the Cooperative Program

**To celebrate  
golden anniversary**

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Foster of 1510 Park St., Malvern, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, June 30, from 2 to 5 p.m. with open house at their home.

Alma Watts and Tom Foster were married July 3, 1924, at Benton, by the late Judge George Huneycutt. The same who performed the marriage of Mrs. Foster's Parents Mr. and Mrs. John A. Watts.

They are members of First Church. He is a retired employee of the Rock Island Line Railroad.

The couple are the parents of a son and two daughters.



Mr. and Mrs. Tom Foster



An overflowing auditorium is one indication of the church's dramatic growth.

The Watson Chapel Church, Pine Bluff, has experienced dramatic growth in recent months. The church was averaging a little under 200 in Sunday School in early 1972. The church is now running over 350. The record attendance is 404.

Pastor Edwin L. Hinkson attributes the congregation's rapid growth to: (1) the bus ministry, (2) the bi-monthly visitation program, (3) home fellowship Bible study groups. "In addition to these efforts," Hinkson said, "our people have developed a great enthusiasm. We are a young church with many young adults and we have discovered that we can do great things for God when we make ourselves available to him."

"The greatest single factor in our growth," Hinkson emphasized, "has been our bus ministry. When I came as pastor, the church was running one bus and had purchased a second one. Three additional buses have been purchased. We now have five buses with four active routes. The bus ministry has given our people opportunity to get into the homes."

The church has utilized senior high school students in bus visitation. "This contact with the community," Hinkson said, "has helped our young people to see both the physical and spiritual needs of the people in our community." There are currently approximately 15 high school students who are involved in the bus ministry.

The bus ministry has been successful in reaching families. Often, those won through the bus ministry will become workers. One family — a husband, wife, and two teen-age children — were

won directly through the bus ministry. This lady is now very active in the bus visitation program.

The church has had 146 conversions in the past two years with 119 baptisms. "At least 40 percent of these have been won directly through the bus ministry," Hinkson observed. Over 50 percent of those baptized have been people 20 years of age or older. The pastor states that the bus ministry has been instrumental in providing opportunity to win the adults as well as the children. "We are able," Hinkson said, "to make the initial contact through the children by getting the children in Sunday School. This often makes it possible for us to win both the adults and the children."

It was pointed out that, often, people who are unchurched are hostile to church visitors. Hinkson emphasized "It is essential that those visiting for our church keep a sweet Christian attitude regardless of rebuffs."

The bus ministry made it necessary to start a Children's Church. The influx of new people makes space a problem. By having two worship services — one for the adults and the other for the children, this problem was solved. It, also, offered a great opportunity to train children who have been unchurched. The Children's Church program is designed to communicate God's truths so that young children can comprehend them. This program is for children ages four through six.

A second emphasis which has assisted the church in its growth is the bi-monthly visitation program. "Two years ago when I became pastor," explained Hinkson, "our church was running

four and five for visitation. The church leadership discussed our situation. We decided to make it a bi-monthly program to be held on Monday nights."

The church has placed major emphasis on their new approach to visitation. The visitation is followed with



Edwin L. Hinkson is pastor of the church.

a fellowship with refreshments. There is an average of 45 who attend visitation. "Another reason for having visitation only two times a month," explained Hinkson, "is to give more time for our people to be at home. I believe that Christian families need to spend time together."

Another area which has developed a

## Watson Chapel

experiences

rapid growth



Sunday School director Jerry James, also a choir member, gives the attendance report.



The church's choir fills the loft.

new enthusiasm in the church is the home fellowship Bible studies. Currently, there are two groups. The younger group, up through age 30, is averaging over 20. The older group is averaging over 14. The groups meet twice a month in various homes. The church provides a nursery. Certain ladies have the responsibility of contacting six others. Often, there are visitors who have no church connection. "This has been an excellent way to reach people who are not Christians as well as those who are not church-related,"

Hinkson said.

One example of the effectiveness of the home fellowship Bible study was a lady who had a Catholic background who began to attend the Bible study. Later she became active in the church. Recently, she made a profession of faith and united with the church. There have been other similar experiences. "These Bible study groups," observed Hinkson, "provide a warmth and magnetism which the Holy Spirit can use to reach people."

The total church program has de-

veloped. Last year was the first time in recent years in which the church has exceeded its budget. The church is in the process of building a new educational facility to accommodate its growth. They have placed an additional \$100 per week in a savings account for the building. Even with this amount held in savings, the church is exceeding its budget.

"Our church has an exciting future," observed Hinkson, "with the dedication and enthusiasm of our people great days are ahead for Watson Chapel."

## News briefs

- First Church, Coal Hill, celebrated their 90th anniversary with special services May 26. The church was organized in May, 1884, and became affiliated with Clear Creek Association in September of that year. The services included morning, afternoon and evening sessions.

- The RAs of First Southern Church, Bryant, have honored Mrs. Leonard Gould as mother of the year. She was presented a corsage in a worship service.

- Saline Church, south of Warren, broke ground May 26 for a new building, including a new sanctuary, classrooms, restrooms and a baptistry. The church was established in 1883. E. L. Wheeler is pastor.



### Association buys mission land

William L. Kreis (left) and J. C. Myers examine a map of Holiday Island planned community north of Eureka Springs where North Pulaski Association has recently acquired property for a church-type mission. The McCulloch Recreational Properties, Inc., developers, gave five lots and the association bought another to allow 1.6 acres for the church site. The association expects to begin construction of a first unit within a year. Kreis is chairman of the missions committee and pastor of Calvary church, while Myers is a committee member and pastor of First church, North Little Rock.



## Baptists aid tornado victims

The State Missions Department and the Home Mission Board are jointly engaged in disaster relief in Forrest City through a special committee set up in the Tri-County association.

Funds amounting to \$6,000 at this date have been made available for direct relief of human needs and rehabilitation of families ministered to by the churches in the disaster area.

In addition to disbursing these funds the committee will also distribute scriptures to homes demolished by the tornado. Each home will receive a full Bible provided by the Missions Department, and each youth of the family will

receive a New Testament or selected scripture portion made available by the American Bible Society.

The committee is comprised of members of churches in the immediate area of the disaster. Pastor James E. Swofford, Second Church, is chairman of the committee. Other members include Jessie Weatherford, treasurer, and Cecil Phillips, Second Church; Malinda Mooneyham and Carole Worthington, Emmanuel Church; Pastor Floyd Cowan Jr., Widener Church; Tom A. Moore and Robert Jones, First Church; and Jerry Milligan, Faith Church.

Robert Tucker, Wynne, superintendent

of missions in Tri-County Association is advisor to the committee.

Funds for disaster relief are available from the giving over and above the goal for the Dixie Jackson offering for State Missions in September. Giving has exceeded the goal for the past three consecutive years.

The Home Mission Board matches the disaster funds given by the State Missions Department for relief in emergencies. Relief was provided the Jonesboro area last year when a tornado struck that community. — R. H. Dorris, Department of State Missions

Power lines drape trees which have been nearly shorn of their branches.



"Food contaminated" signs warn looters at the remains of a grocery store. The clock on the back wall is stopped at 5:16.



This home lost the roof. This middle class area suffered relatively light damage.



This black church received some heavy structural damage. All Southern Baptist churches escaped damage.

**Annuity**

**Vital questions and answers on our insurance plans**

**Can the coverage on dependent children be converted to permanent insurance at the time of termination?**

Yes. It can be converted to an individual non-participating ordinary life contract without evidence of insurability if applied for within 31 days of termination of group coverage.

**Does the amount of insurance and its related premium increase as salary increases?**

Yes. The amount of insurance and its related costs will increase as one moves from one bracket to another as indicated in the schedule. Changes are made annually as designated by the Annuity Board.

**Will the amount of insurance be reduced if one's salary should decrease?**

No. The person who has reached a certain plateau of coverage may continue that same amount or reduce coverage to correspond with his reduced salary.

**Does the life insurance provide double indemnity for accidental death?**

Yes. The designed insurance program carries an accidental death and dismemberment provision. The face amount of

the policy would be paid for death from any cause. An additional amount equal to the face of the policy would be paid in case of accidental death. The same amount would also be applicable in the case of accidental loss of two hands, two feet, two eyes, or one hand and one foot, etc. One half the face of the policy would be payable for the accidental loss of any one member.

**Are there any exceptions to the accidental death and dismemberment feature?**

Yes. Payments under this portion must be for losses caused by accidents. No benefits are payable for a loss caused or contributed to by:

1. Bodily or mental infirmity,
2. Disease, ptomaines, or bacterial infections,
3. Medical or surgical treatment,
4. Suicide or intentional self inflicted injury, or
5. War or any act of war.

**Does the life insurance program have "waiver of premium"?**

No. The life insurance may be continued in force if one is disabled, but the premium must be paid.

**Can the life insurance be terminated either by The Aetna or by the Annuity Board?**

The individual's coverage cannot be terminated at will by the insurance company or the Annuity Board. An employe's insurance will terminate if

- 1) his full time service with a church of the SBC ceases;
- 2) his church ceases to be a participant in the plan;
- 3) contributions for insurance are not made;
- 4) the entire group plan is terminated; or
- 5) he retires, as to Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance.

Insurance for a member's dependent will terminate if:

- 1) the member's insurance terminates;
- 2) contributions for insurance are not made;
- 3) a dependent ceases to qualify as an eligible dependent; or
- 4) the member's insurance reduces at age 65, or retirement

**How does one change the beneficiary designation in life insurance?**

Forms may be secured from the Annuity Board. These are to be completed in duplicate and returned to the Annuity Board where the change will be made.

**WMU**

**Home missionary will be camp speaker**



Miss Wilson

Miss Sara Wilson, home missionary in New Orleans will be sharing her experiences with GAs at Camp Paron, July 15-20. Girls will learn much about the work of the Baptist Center there as she leads in a time of mission emphasis each morning.

Other missionaries expected for GA camps are Miss Nan Owens, former missionary to Nigeria; Mrs. Sam Turner, Kenya; and Miss Mary Bennett, former journeyman to Hong Kong.

There is still time for your girls to register for the last two weeks of GA Camp (July 22-27 and July 29-Aug. 3). Don't delay as your girls could miss out on a week of mission activities, worship experiences, fun times, and fellowship with girls from all over Arkansas! Send registrations NOW to the State WMU Office, P.O. Box 550, Little Rock 72203. You'll be glad you did! — Julia Ketner, GA Camp Director

**Stewardship and Foundation work together**

Recent news releases have reported the election of Harry D. Trulove of Dallas, Tex., as Executive Director of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation. This department is happy to welcome this co-laborer to the work of Arkansas Baptists and to commend him to all our churches and every Southern Baptist in our state.

The Arkansas Baptist Foundation works in a specialized area of Christian stewardship. It promotes the use of wills, annuities, trust agreements, and other forms of implementing Christian stewardship in deferred giving and estate planning. Some of its administrative work is of necessity rather technical, but at the point where it serves the individual Christian and the New Testament church, its function is just as Scriptural and theologically sound as any other aspect of Christian stewardship.

Harry Trulove brings high qualifications and experience to share with Arkansas Baptists. For five years he has been secretary of the Estate Steward-

ship Department of our neighboring Texas convention. From a practical standpoint he has served as the promotional and educational arm of the Texas Baptist Foundation, which is recognized throughout the country as a leader among all religious foundations.

In addition to his responsibilities in a specialized area of stewardship, Harry Trulove is equally qualified in every other aspect of Scriptural stewardship. He has assisted churches of every size with all types of stewardship programs. He has extensive experience in leading associational clinics and conferences. He is considered an authority in the field of Christian family money management.

In the months ahead this department and the Arkansas Baptist Foundation will undoubtedly work closely together in seeking to provide leadership and assistance in stewardship for all Arkansas Baptists. —Roy F. Lewis, Secretary of Stewardship-Cooperative Program Department

## Foundation

### A sense of belonging

The spark of desire for personal identity burns within the human heart.

Often the bigness of organizations, businesses, and religious bodies causes the individual to feel swallowed. Personal identity is lost. There is the feeling of being a cog in a machine, or a number that activates a computer.

Recently the 117th session of the Southern Baptist Convention ended. It was big! More than 18,000 individual messengers registered. Add to this the individuals from the churches who were not messengers (on 10 messengers are allowed any church); the individual children, and the individual visitors and you have a crowd of individuals.

Opps, I let the secret out. Did you notice how many times individual could be used? That's what it is all about — individuals cooperating in a common cause as a part of the Family of Christians.

The Bible reminds us that as a Christian we are part of God's Family-Body of Christ. In the body, each part has its own place — its own function. Each is important, yet each is different. What one accomplishes all accomplish. When one hurts all hurt.

Belonging to a "Family" means accepting responsibility. Because of love, individuals make adjustments that help the "Family" reach its goals.

Belonging to a "Family" means an expansion of energy. Together, more can be accomplished than could ever be done individually. Cooperation allows the big thing to be accomplished.

Belonging to a "Family" means having security. There is the awareness that need will be met and other benefits provided as resources allow. Where there is love, there is security.

As part of the Arkansas Baptist Family it is my desire that the Foundation help each area of our work know a deeper sense of belonging. Our purpose will be to provide the channel that carries the love of Baptists to all our work.

In the coming weeks some areas of our work will be discussed with a prayer, that the Holy Spirit will reveal to many the opportunity for providing continuing support for some area of our work. Time and space demand that a sequence be followed. The order in no way is intended to suggest priorities. Everything we are doing is important and deserves attention. —Harry D. Trulove, Executive Director

## Child Care

### Perpetuate the memory of a loved one by improving the lives of others

"A person lives as he invests himself in other lives . . . a man is immortal as he is useful. He lives as long as the thing in which he has invested lives. Money that goes into the making of character, the shaping of destinies — money that gives new hope and spells opportunities — does not pass away . . . it is as imperishable as truth itself."

More and more people are using memorial gifts as a practical means of honoring the memory of a friend or loved one. A living memorial given to the Baptist Home for Children lives on in the lives of countless numbers of children. These memorials have come from Baptists all over our state and are deeply appreciated.

In this way, individuals and church groups honor the memory of someone by helping us provide a more complete program for the children in our care. These gifts express a continuation of concern for young people and interest in them. Memorial giving is another way of spreading flowers along the drab and sometimes dreadful way that others must travel.

Each time a contribution is received by us in honor or in memory of some-

one, we send the family of the one so honored an acknowledgement card and a receipt to the donor.

In our newsletter, *Current Events*, recognition of individual memorial gifts is listed. A complete list of the names of the ones honored and the names of the donors are included as a regular feature of our newsletter. This is another way that Christians may express their thoughtfulness and concern for the children who are entrusted to our care. Many prefer to perpetuate the memory of a loved one by improving the way of living for others. —Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

**Baptist Building Bonds, Inc., of  
716 Main Street, Little Rock, has  
no connection with the Arkansas  
Baptist State Convention or the  
Southern Baptist Convention.**



Recently elected officers and sponsors of the Arkansas Club at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, meet to discuss plans for coming events. The officers are (left to right) Lucien Coleman, associate professor of religious education, faculty sponsor; Jerry Gray of Pine Bluff, secretary-treasurer; David Henderson of Little Rock, president; Don Carr of North Little Rock, vice president; Jerry Davis of Little Rock, public relations director; and Rodger Murchison, assistant to the dean of theology, co-sponsor.



## SBC scenes

*ABOVE: Newly-elected SBC President Jaroy Weber (right) holds his first press conference with W. C. Fields as moderator.*

*ABOVE RIGHT: U. S. Vice President Gerald Ford speaks to a breakfast meeting of Baptist Men.*

*RIGHT: Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter also was on the program at the breakfast.*

*LEFT: Glendon McCullough, president of the Brotherhood Commission also spoke at the event.*



## Woman's viewpoint In due time Christ died . . . . .

*By Iris O'Neal Bowen*



*Mrs. Bowen*

We have, in our church, a fine young man, who, while he was in high school, yielded to the call of God and dedicated his life to the music ministry. He was prepared to go a way to college when it was found that he had a serious heart condition and would have to undergo surgery.

During the Christmas holidays the surgery was done and he returned to college. Soon, though, he collapsed and it was discovered that a valve placed

in his chest was not working, and he had suffered a stroke. He was in a critical condition for some time, and many prayers went up to God on his behalf.

As I thought of his potential life for God and the many years he could give, I thought of my own life — and how much more benefit his many years would be to God than the ones I had left.

As I gave this much consideration, I told God I would be willing to give up my own life if it took that for Bobby to recover from his illness.

Then a few Sundays back, we studied how Jesus died for sinners, and I told my class of my prayer for Bobby. As we

talked, I wondered if I would have been willing to give up my life for just any sinner! — And I admitted I was afraid I would not have been able to do it.

"Yet," I told the class, "Jesus did just that! He was not only willing, but he did give up his life for others, even the worst of transgressors!"

Paul says, in Romans 5:6-8: "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

# Arkansas faces at the Convention



Mr. and Mrs. John Gearing. Gearing is superintendent of missions for Mississippi County Association.

Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Johnson. Johnson is pastor at Paragould, First.



Mrs. Jimmy Watson. Her husband is pastor at Greenlee Memorial, Pine Bluff.



Pastors Harrel Cato, McCrory; James W. Johnson, Tupelo; Paris A. Barton, Immanuel, Paragould; Eugene Ray, Augusta, First.



Sam Turner (right). Turner is missionary to Kenya, working in the Arkansas Stewardship-Cooperative Program Department while on furlough.

Mr. and Mrs. M. T. McGregor. He is retired missionary for Hope Association.



*Lex Eaker, pastor of Pike Avenue Church, North Little Rock.*



*Tom Pitman, pastor at Crawfordsville; Robert Tucker, pastor at Emmanuel, Hot Springs; and Herb Shreve, pastor at Cove.*



*W. O. Vaught, pastor of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, who served as chairman of the Committee on Order of Business.*

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**ABN photos**

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# Religious education association urged to be 'innkeepers' to world

DALLAS, June 10 — A call to be "innkeepers" to the world concluded the 19th annual Southern Baptist Religious Education Association meeting here Monday.

Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Church of San Antonio, paralleled his own life to that of the Good Samaritan.

"Jesus does not require me to climb down off the mule and pick up the poor beaten man. He does that. It is as He picks them up and brings them to the inn that we can care for them. We are the innkeepers of the world," he said.

The San Antonio pastor called on his brethren to be life support systems in a "warped and diseased world."

In addition to Allen's address, the religious educators heard two other educators discuss trends and methods of education, and elected new officers as they closed their two-day meeting.

It was one of four specialized conferences held Sunday and Monday in advance of the Southern Baptist Convention's three-day annual meeting.

Charles Tidwell of Ft. Worth, professor of church administration at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, was elected president of the organization, replacing Luke E. Williams Jr., of San Antonio.

Elected vice presidents were Elaine Dickson of Louisville, Ky., and Bob Bingham of Atlanta, Ga.

Bob Feather of Dallas was named president-elect and vice president; William E. Young, of Nashville, Tenn., was re-elected secretary-treasurer and Neta Stewart of Ft. Worth was elected associate secretary.

Registration at the meeting was 443, besting the previous record of 431, set

several years ago.

Earlier Monday, Ralph C. Atkinson Jr., professor of religious education at Southern Seminary, and Nolan Estes, superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District, took a look at education from their various perspectives.

Atkinson discussed motivation, manipulation and bribes in church life, while Estes peered into the future for a look at what he considers trends in public education.

The seminary professor charged churches often use bribery and manipulation to achieve required results, and often have an obsession to judge the success or failure of an educational program on the single basis of attendance.

Bribery, he said can be "offering air conditioning, pew cushions, bridal parlors, parking garages, bowling alleys, skating rinks, gymnasiums, dining rooms, theaters, Holy Land Tours and supercruiser buses to make church more appealing to people."

Manipulation can include coercing "church members into accepting responsibilities out of a sense of guilt, fear or morbid duty."

He added: "For the church, it is not enough to do the right deed; it must be done for the right reason. Otherwise it is sin."

Estes, a Baptist layman, predicted schoolmen will spend more time in court in the next 10 years than they have in the preceding 20 years of desegregation cases.

The reason, he said, is a recent court decision requiring not only equal education for all children but "equally ef-

fective education for every child . . . there is a vast difference."

The decision will result in professional malpractice suits against educators, he predicted.

Other trends he predicted are the politics of education, early intervention, parent education, self renewal, career education and sharing of power.

Estes told the religious educators they have a very important role because "education must offer food not only for the brain but for the soul. It requires both to prepare young people for life and life requires knowledge, concepts, skills and values.

"Knowledge and skills without values are extremely devastating. If they have knowledge and skills but no values, they become like robots . . . like the people in Hitler's Germany, who answered to any master."

Among business items, the educators voted to raise the organization dues from \$5 to \$7.50 per year and to authorize a study of the problems of people dropping out of vocational religious work.

## Executive Committee elects officers

DALLAS, June 12 — Charles Harvey, pastor of Sunset Acres Church, Shreveport, La., was elected chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee here Wednesday afternoon.

Harvey, former president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, succeeds Stewart B. Simms, pastor of First Church, Greer, S.C., who served the maximum allowable two years.

Simms earlier had been elected first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Walter Nunn, pastor of First Church, Jasper, Ala., was elected vice chairman. He is the immediate past president of the Alabama Baptist State Convention and has served on the finance committee of the Executive Committee.

Mrs. Ned King of Dallas was re-elected recording secretary, and Porter Routh of Nashville was re-elected executive secretary-treasurer.

The officers will appoint new subcommittees of the Executive Committee.

The brief organizational meeting to elect new officers was held at the Statler-Hilton Hotel here after the Southern Baptist Convention earlier had elected new committee members to fill vacancies and expired terms on the 64-member committee.



The United Baptist Choir from Nassau, Bahamas, sang twice on June 11 for Convention sessions.

## Alma Hunt sees WMU continuing as vital force

DALLAS, June 10 — Miss Alma Hunt, retiring executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union said here Monday her organization has no thought of folding despite the increasing activity in the woman's lib movement.

Miss Hunt was honored for her 26 years of service in a program at Dallas Convention Center, that also included addresses by Mrs. James Fancher, a Jackson, Miss., author, and C. B. Hogue of Atlanta, director of the division of evangelism for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Miss Hunt said there will continue to be a woman's organization because there is a need for one and because of its purposes.

"I believe WMU lifts a woman above the kitchen sink or desk or industry to see a world of need," she said. "WMU can change a woman's perspective."

She said it also allows women to be molders of their own circumstances and not victims of it.

Porter Routh of Nashville, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, presented Miss Hunt with a plaque on behalf of the Executive Committee.

"Prayer and missionary education have been and will probably always be hallmarks of WMU, but Alma Hunt will probably be best remembered for the significant contribution she made in bringing a new emphasis to mission action," Routh said.

Mrs. Lamar Jackson of Birmingham, president of the Alabama WMU, Miss Mary Essie Stephens of Montgomery, executive secretary of Alabama WMU, and Mrs. Robert Fling, a past president of WMU, also saluted Miss Hunt.

Hogue, who spoke on "Sounds of

Action in Evangelism," urged the women to get involved in evangelism.

"We must recognize the Great Commission was not given merely to a minister or two or a few. It was given to the believing company of all those who knew Him as the Saviour."

## Sullivan predicts growth for BSSB

DALLAS, June 12 — James L. Sullivan, facing retirement next February as president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, told 18,000 messengers here tonight that he predicts a decade of unprecedented growth.

"The climate in the convention is the best I have known in my ministry," said Sullivan. "We have the healthiest internal situation of any major denomination — Catholic, Protestant, or Jew."

Sullivan became head of the multi-million dollar Nashville-based Sunday School Board in 1953.

He told messengers of three periods in his administration — the first one of success following the "Million More in '54" project, the second one of self-examination, and the third one of turmoil.

"Those were difficult years," Sullivan said of the 1960's. "People lacked the ability to adjust to constant change. Most people thought revolution was producing change. They didn't know the change was producing revolution."

During these years the BSSB was often at the center of controversy about its publications.

"It is impossible to publish without conflict and diversity," Sullivan said. "Nothing would kill us quicker than for everybody to see everything exactly the same way. We have tried to provide diversity."

Sullivan called the Sunday School Board a "miracle institution." Too expensive a service for the convention's early years, it now supports itself by sales of literature totalling more than \$47,000,000 annually.

Sunday School Board Trustees presented citation plaques to Sullivan and to J. M. Crowe, who will retire as executive vice-president.

Sullivan's successor, Grady Cothen, promised messengers that the Sunday School Board would "be preoccupied with the needs of people who need Christ and maturity as Christians," as well as with the needs of the churches.

"The prime question Southern Baptists should be asking about the Bible is, 'how authoritative is it?'" Cothen said.



Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, awarded retiring WMU executive secretary Alma Hunt with a distinguished service plaque during the WMU conference June 10. Miss Hunt has served in the post for 26 years. (David Clanton Photo).



# Ouachita-Southern Advancement Campaign Contributions January 1, 1971-May 31, 1974

Please note: This progress report reflects only money received through the Baptist Building. Many churches have given more than reported here, but their gifts were sent directly to the two schools.

<b>ARKANSAS VALLEY ASSOCIATION</b>		Harrison 1st	9,908.39	<b>CARROLL ASSOCIATION</b>		Hector 1st	345.00
Brinkley 1st	9,000.00	Hopewell	210.00	Berryville 1st	1,931.35	Hopewell	100.13
Clarendon 1st	1,450.00	Lead Hill 1st	631.91	Blue Eye 1st	200.00	Kelley Heights	226.15
Elaine	3,000.00	Marshall 1st	200.00	Eureka Springs 1st	572.00	London	861.67
Helena 1st	6,325.00	New Hope	200.00	Freeman Heights	550.00	Moreland 1st	70.29
Hughes 1st	3,000.00	Oregon Flat	480.60	Rudd	60.00	New Hope	174.00
Lambrook	60.64	Rock Springs	506.00	Total	3,315.35	Ola 1st	800.00
Marianna 1st	1,700.00	St. Joe 1st	107.80	<b>CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION</b>		Plainview	496.00
Marvell 1st	2,021.17	Union	500.00	Almyra 1st	4,000.00	Pleasant View	310.00
Monroe	78.00	Valley Springs	317.61	DeWitt 1st	6,144.88	Pottsville	433.47
Moro	971.50	Total	16,761.55	North Maple	1,003.74	Rover	224.00
Petty's Chapel	240.80	<b>BUCKNER ASSOCIATION</b>		Reydeff	233.00	Russellville 2nd	2,352.60
Turner	993.75	Cedar Creek	20.00	Southside	949.78	Total	14,606.58
West Helena	7,250.00	Hartford 1st	1,000.00	Stuttgart 1st	13,836.61	<b>DELTA ASSOCIATION</b>	
West Helena 2nd	2,255.62	Haw Creek	15.00	Total	26,168.03	Arkansas City	800.00
Total	38,346.48	Hon	50.00	<b>CENTRAL ASSOCIATION</b>		Bellaire	1,050.00
<b>ASHLEY ASSOCIATION</b>		James Fork	500.00	Antioch	2.00	Boydell	2.00
Corinth A	180.00	Mansfield 1st	1,368.67	Benton 1st	14,583.37	Collins	900.00
Crossett 1st	12,551.08	New Home	507.00	Calvary, Benton	2,950.00	Dermott	5,100.00
Crossett 2nd	393.60	Pleasant Grove No. 2	200.00	Central, Hot Springs	4,798.05	Eudora	2,407.00
Eden	630.00	Rock Creek	48.00	Hot Springs 1st	8,700.00	Kelso	375.00
Fountain Hill 1st	686.22	Temple	50.00	Hot Springs 2nd	13,291.57	Lake Village 1st	2,499.50
Hamburg 1st	1,403.02	Union Hope	45.10	Lake Hamilton	300.00	McGehee 1st	6,147.25
Jarvis Chapel	785.22	Waldron 1st	4,113.00	Lakeside	25.00	New Hope	1,375.00
Magnolia	900.00	Total	7,916.77	Malvern 3rd	100.00	Parkdale	180.00
Martinville	308.83	<b>BUCKVILLE ASSOCIATION</b>		Mountain Valley	290.00	Parkway	800.00
Meridian	278.40	Mount Tabor	225.00	Mt. Vernon	7.14	Shiloh	42.44
Mount Olive	2,900.00	Total	225.00	Old Union	1,000.00	South McGehee	15.00
Mount Pleasant	480.00	<b>CADDO RIVER ASSOCIATION</b>		Park Place	5,151.51	Tillar 1st	980.20
North Crossett 1st	1,537.00	Caddo Gap	200.00	Pearcy	450.00	Watson	340.00
Sardis	75.00	Mount Ida 1st	1,743.44	Pleasant Hill	350.00	Wilnot	1,495.69
Shiloh	578.47	Norman 1st	290.00	Riverside	150.00	Total	24,509.48
Temple, Crossett	4,500.05	Refuge	8.34	Trinity, Benton	875.07	<b>FAULKNER ASSOCIATION</b>	
Ashley Association WMU	50.00	Sulphur Springs	125.03	Trinity, Malvern	485.24	Beryl	525.00
Total	28,236.89	Total	2,366.81	Walnut Valley	200.00	Bono	46.80
<b>BARTHOLEMEW ASSOCIATION</b>		<b>CALVARY ASSOCIATION</b>		Total	53,618.95	Brumley Chapel	59.42
Antioch	140.30	Antioch	150.00	<b>CLEAR CREEK ASSOCIATION</b>		Conway 2nd	48.50
Ebenezer	988.50	Augusta 1st	5,010.00	Clarksville 1st	1,000.00	Harlan Park	1,001.47
Enon	200.00	Beebe 1st	1,920.00	Ozark 1st	600.00	Harmony	609.00
Florence	6.00	Beihany	50.00	Ozone	83.00	Pleasant Grove	14.00
Hermitage	3,026.37	Central	2,890.69	Van Buren 1st	5,600.00	Wooster	37.11
Immanuel, Warren	2,175.00	Crosby 1st	560.00	Webb City	89.50	Total	2,341.30
Macedonia	382.17	El Paso	40.00	Total	7,372.50	<b>GAINESVILLE ASSOCIATION</b>	
Marsden	154.12	Good Hope	145.00	Barling 1st	30.60	Greenway	235.30
Monticello 1st	4,130.78	Grace	121.00	Bethel	68.00	Knobel 1st	140.00
Northside	649.50	Gregory	240.00	Booneville 1st	2,752.00	New Hope	536.00
Prairie Grove	156.52	Higginson	622.75	Branch	725.00	Nimmons	300.00
Warren 1st	11,116.57	Hunter	400.00	Calvary, Ft. Smith	2,900.00	Piggott 1st	6,277.14
Total	23,125.83	Judsonia 1st	3,110.67	Charleston 1st	2,800.00	Rector 1st	2,440.00
<b>BENTON ASSOCIATION</b>		Kensett 1st	1,872.14	Enterprise	9.40	St. Francis	800.00
Central Avenue	740.66	McCrary 1st	1,450.00	Excelsior	67.76	Tipperry	371.00
Garfield 1st	322.48	McRae 1st	380.00	Fort Smith 1st	4,586.79	Total	11,099.44
Gentry 1st	3,000.09	Midway	16.25	Glendale	634.50	<b>GREENE ASSOCIATION</b>	
Highfill 1st	1,350.00	Morton	290.00	Grand Avenue, Ft. Smith	18,909.89	Beech Grove	158.00
Monte Ne	9,718.61	Mount Hebron	100.00	Greenwood 1st	2,520.00	Brighton	308.00
Rogers 1st	9,991.98	Pangburn 1st	410.76	Immanuel, Ft. Smith	234.00	Brown's Chapel	600.00
Siloam Springs 1st	8,991.98	Patterson	202.16	Milson	300.00	Clark's Chapel	577.15
Trinity	50.00	Pleasant Grove	290.00	Mt. Harmony	60.00	East Side	2,450.00
Twelve Corners	546.00	Raynor Grove	84.10	Northside, Charleston	812.00	Finch	725.00
Total	25,394.82	Rocky Point	445.00	Northside, Charleston	300.00	Immanuel, Paragould	1,805.25
<b>BIG CREEK ASSOCIATION</b>		Searcy 1st	7,926.57	Paris	500.00	Light	25.00
Gum Springs	48.00	Searcy 2nd	766.34	Phoenix Village	100.00	Mt. Hebron	67.80
Mammoth Spring 1st	209.85	Temple	100.00	Southside, Booneville	300.00	Nutti's Chapel	371.14
Salem 1st	56.40	Trinity	28.00	Total	38,609.94	Oak Grove	362.28
Viola 1st	308.00	Tupelo	300.00	<b>CONWAY-PERRY ASSOCIATION</b>		Paragould 1st	11,116.68
Total	622.25	West Point	314.04	Adona	18.42	Pleasant Valley	45.00
<b>BLACK RIVER ASSOCIATION</b>		Total	30,235.47	Casa 1st	300.00	Stonewall	25.00
Alicia	700.00	<b>CAREY ASSOCIATION</b>		Houston	50.00	Walcott	304.64
Black Rock 1st	1,248.00	Bearden	450.00	Morrilton 1st	910.00	Walks Chapel	181.66
Clear Springs	15.00	Fordyce 1st	4,838.35	Perryville	1,250.00	Total	249.20
College City	1,348.00	Hampton 1st	552.24	Pleasant Grove	20.00	<b>HARMONY ASSOCIATION</b>	
Hoxie 1st	560.00	Manning	637.00	Plummerville 1st	675.20	Centennial	1,810.88
Imboden 1st	95.31	Sparkman 1st	5,200.00	Stony Point	30.00	Douglas	311.58
Immanuel, Newport	735.12	Thornton 1st	370.00	Thornburg	40.65	Dumas 1st	6,260.00
New Hope No. 1	350.00	Tinsman 1st	145.00	Total	3,294.27	East Side	1,850.00
New Hope No. 2	147.50	Total	12,192.59	<b>CURRENT RIVER ASSOCIATION</b>		Forest Park	3,866.58
Newport 1st	4,666.71	<b>CAROLINE ASSOCIATION</b>		Calvary, Corning	1,681.87	Gould 1st	725.00
Smithville	400.00	Biscoe	174.27	Corning 1st	3,000.00	Grady 1st	175.00
Spring Lake	383.41	Brownsville	200.00	Hopewell	1,000.00	Greenlee Memorial	1,715.28
Swifton	600.00	Cabot 1st	6,914.18	Mt. Pleasant	100.00	Hardin	105.00
Tuckerman 1st	200.00	Carlisle 1st	4,430.91	Pocahontas 1st	1,691.61	Hickory Grove	226.50
Walnut Ridge 1st	6,302.00	Chambers	186.00	Shannon	168.71	Humphrey	1,050.00
White Oak	253.30	Coy	1,450.00	Shiloh Clay	450.00	Immanuel, Pine Bluff	8,800.00
Total	18,004.35	Des Arc 1st	2,230.00	Success	61.77	Kingsland 1st	638.00
<b>BOONE-NEWTON ASSOCIATION</b>		DeValls Bluff 1st	372.60	Witt's Chapel	842.74	Lin Memorial	2,900.00
Alpena	300.00	Hazen 1st	672.84	Total	8,996.70	Lee Wood	451.78
Baravia	222.00	Humnoke 1st	554.12	<b>DARDANELLE-RUSSELLVILLE ASSOCIATION</b>		Oak Grove	1,002.39
Bear Creek Springs	709.87	Keo	2,400.00	Atkins 1st	1,400.00	Oakland	265.50
Bellefonte	70.00	Lonoke	4,833.38	Bakers Creek	735.28	Pine Bluff 1st	4,729.89
Bozley	511.01	Mount Carmel	300.00	Danville 1st	1,450.00	Pine Bluff 2nd	2,800.00
Deer	267.56	Old Austin	32.45	Dardanelle 1st	2,100.00	Plum Bayou	335.00
Elmwood	150.00	Toltec	1,572.50	Dover 1st	381.75	Shannon Road	252.00
Emmanuel, Harrison	465.92	Ward 1st	1,200.00	East Point	900.00	South Side	1,000.00
Gaither	48.54	Watensaw	848.25	Grace Memorial	989.00	Star City 1st	3,510.93
Green Forest 1st	515.84	Total	28,371.50	Havana	177.84	Wabbaseka	100.00
Grubb Springs	438.48						

Watson Chapel	2,514.15	<b>LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION</b>		Two Mile	53.74	Forrest City 1st	6,060.00
White Sulphur Springs	1,230.49	Ashdown 1st	1,333.34	Vandervoort 1st	437.74	Harris Chapel	708.80
Total	40,623.93	Ben Lomond	79.18	Wickes	186.96	Jericho	12.00
<b>HOPE ASSOCIATION</b>		Bingen	400.00	Yonana	262.17	Marrion	60.00
Anderson	447.47	Brownstown	112.45	Total	14,430.14	Parkin 1st	250.00
Calvary, Hope	54.35	Central	65.00	<b>PULASKI ASSOCIATION</b>			
Calvary, Texarkana	1,500.00	Columbus	180.00	Baptist Tabernacle	2,900.00	Turrell 1st	85.00
Canfield	450.00	Foreman 1st	225.00	Calvary, Little Rock	13,477.70	Union Avenue	1,838.82
Central, Magnolia	32,723.00	Horatio	525.00	Crystal Hill	1,674.55	Vanderbilt Avenue	1,176.00
Hope 1st	15,001.89	Locksburg 1st	699.93	East End	859.64	West Memphis 1st	12,490.98
Immanuel, Texarkana	1,180.00	Mount Moriah	580.00	Forest Highlands	5,100.00	Wynne	708.00
Lewisville 1st	1,180.00	Murfreesboro 1st	6,875.00	Green Memorial	966.00	Total	31,957.69
Macedonia No. 2	25.00	Nashville 1st	4,555.57	Geyer Springs 1st	15,736.62	<b>TRINITY ASSOCIATION</b>	
Memorial	500.00	New Hope	80.00	Hebron	1,012.00	Bethel	525.00
Stamps 1st	2,465.00	Ridgeway	400.00	Immanuel, Little Rock	1,760.00	Calvary, Harrisburg	675.00
Trinity	2,500.00	Total	16,810.48	Lakshore Drive	176,304.14	Cornier's Chapel	1,000.00
West Side	166.66	<b>MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION</b>		Lakshore Drive	115.00	East Side	125.00
Total	58,153.17	Rhytheville 1st	2,220.00	Lifeline	9,000.00	Faith	300.00
<b>INDEPENDENCE ASSOCIATION</b>		Brown's Chapel	57.15	Little Rock 1st	24,055.00	Fisher 1st	600.00
Batesville 1st	7,385.00	Joiner	60.00	Little Rock 2nd	9,249.36	Freer	135.00
Calvary, Batesville	4,851.74	Keiser 1st	30.00	Markham Street	2,800.00	Greenfield	616.80
Calvary, Timbo	25.00	Leachville 1st	2,175.00	Natural Steps	922.96	Harrisburg 1st	2,400.00
Cord	730.22	Manila	1,500.00	North Point	2,000.00	Lepanto 1st	2,676.70
Cushman	140.00	Memorial	428.00	Olivet	1,994.71	Maple Grove	315.00
Desha 1st	1,120.00	New Liberty	759.00	Pine Grove	616.38	Marked Tree	350.00
Eastside	300.00	New Providence	176.01	Plainview	160.00	Neal Chapel	160.00
Emmanuel	300.00	Oswola 1st	3,000.00	Pleasant Grove	756.00	Pleasant Grove	957.67
Floral	609.00	Trinity	192.02	Pulaski Heights	7,241.00	Pleasant Hill	226.13
Marcella	240.00	Whitton	600.00	Reynolds Memorial	514.03	Pleasant Valley	681.81
Mountain View 1st	2,392.00	Wilson 1st	3,340.00	Shannon Hills 1st	440.89	Providence	4.00
Mt. Zion	100.00	Yarbo	945.00	Sheridan 1st	5,760.00	Riverside	55.00
Pilgrim's Rest	100.00	Total	17,682.20	South Highland	55.00	Trumann 1st	2,457.24
Pleasant Plains	369.52	<b>MT. ZION ASSOCIATION</b>		Sunset Lane	1,609.00	Troyana 1st	1,773.24
Rosie	400.00	Bowman	600.00	Tyler Street	1,014.34	Valley View	50.00
Ruddell Hill	280.74	Brookland	817.78	Vimy Ridge	819.25	Weiner 1st	240.00
Salado	290.00	Central, Jonesboro	2,134.58	Wakelife 1st	200.00	Total	16,323.64
West Batesville	2,900.00	Childress	1,000.00	West Side	90.00	<b>VAN BUREN ASSOCIATION</b>	
White River	90.00	Egypt	390.00	Woodlawn	2,032.01	Bee Branch	300.00
Total	22,553.22	Fisher Street	450.00	Total	208,658.58	Rupert	231.70
<b>LIBERTY ASSOCIATION</b>		Friends Hope	954.24	<b>RED RIVER ASSOCIATION</b>			
Buena Vista	88.11	Jonesboro 1st	10,412.85	Antioine	501.00	Scotland	200.00
Caledonia	300.00	Lunston	17.35	Arkadelphia 1st	12,412.64	Standley Memorial	50.00
Calion 1st	2,229.34	Mount Zion	1,590.27	Arkadelphia 2nd	884.50	Total	781.70
Camden 1st	9,006.61	Nettleton 1st	423.75	Beech Street	1,970.40	<b>WASHINGTON-MADISON ASSOCIATION</b>	
Cullendale 1st	4,246.76	New Antioch	666.66	Beirne 1st	487.83	Berry Street	261.00
Ebenezer	1,827.00	New Hope, Black Oak	100.00	Bethel	269.30	Calvary, Huntsville	244.76
El Dorado 1st	4,288.67	Philadelphia	500.00	Bethlehem	79.61	Caudle Avenue	1,320.00
El Dorado 2nd	10,150.00	Westvale	1,133.04	Cedar Grove	50.00	Elmdale	2,714.84
Harmony	475.00	Woodsprings	143.00	De Gray	810.00	Farmington 1st	812.00
Immanuel, El Dorado	10,662.99	Total	21,533.52	Emmet	319.05	Fayetteville 1st	4,500.00
Junction City 1st	1,015.00	<b>NORTH PULASKI ASSOCIATION</b>		Harmony Hill	330.00	Immanuel, Fayetteville	1,495.00
Knowles	150.00	Baring Cross	3,000.63	Park Hill	2,016.50	Johnson	349.74
Liberty	450.00	Berea	338.87	Prescott 1st	3,222.19	Liberty	200.00
Maple Avenue	2,390.00	Central, NLR	375.00	Richwoods	1,510.00	Lincoln 1st	30.00
Parkview	2,465.00	Gravel Ridge 1st	1,709.24	Shiloh	104.05	New Hope	10.00
Salem	1,000.00	Highway	1,210.00	Third Street	446.57	Sonora	500.00
Smackover 1st	29.39	Indian Hills	3,000.00	Whelen Springs	333.69	Springdale 1st	20,000.08
Southside	77.00	Jacksonville 1st	775.00	Miscellaneous	500.00	Sulphur City	360.00
Stephens 1st	1,248.65	Jacksonville 2nd	48.07	Total	26,247.33	University	2,333.28
Strong 1st	250.00	Levy	11,666.58	<b>ROCKY BAYOU ASSOCIATION</b>			
Union	70.00	Marshall Road	949.11	Belview	84.00	West Fork	642.41
Urbana	1,000.00	North Little Rock 1st	5,581.78	Boswell	15.00	Wimlow	642.41
Village	50.00	Park Hill, NLR	65,566.66	Franklin	164.60	Total	36,613.11
West Side	4,666.64	Pike Avenue	2,155.00	Hardy 1st	1,099.57	<b>WHITE RIVER ASSOCIATION</b>	
Total	58,936.16	Sherwood 1st	2,669.08	Melbourne 1st	1,500.00	East Side	1,210.00
<b>LITTLE RED RIVER ASSOCIATION</b>		Sylvan Hills 1st	1,265.60	Mount Pleasant	100.00	Flippin	754.00
Arbanna	195.07	Total	100,310.60	Myron	45.00	Gassville	115.00
Center Ridge	192.00	<b>OUACHITA ASSOCIATION</b>		Oxford	80.00	Mountain Home 1st	7,481.15
Concord	483.14	Acorn	360.00	Sage	100.00	Peel	8.00
Harris Chapel	669.08	Bethel	5.00	Sidney	200.00	Pilgrims Rest	450.00
Heber Springs 1st	5,800.00	Calvary, Mena	270.00	Wiseman	195.00	Summit	21.00
Life Line	80.00	Concord	458.67	Zion Hill	80.00	Whiteville	6.00
Lone Star	320.00	Cove	81.98	Total	3,663.17	Whiteville 1st	770.00
Mount Olive	50.00	Dallas Avenue	1,321.76	<b>SEARCY ASSOCIATION</b>			
Mount Zion	230.00	DeQueen 1st	6,121.32	Leslie 1st	609.00	Hilltop Mission	354.00
New Bethel	319.47	Gillham	400.00	Total	609.00	Lakeway Mission	4.00
Pleasant Ridge	370.00	Grannis	26.46	<b>TRI-COUNTY ASSOCIATION</b>			
Pleasant Valley	167.00	Hatfield	166.00	Beck Spur	109.81	Clinton 1st	2,320.58
Post Oak	145.54	Hatton	520.00	Calvary, West Memphis	3,000.00	Russellville 1st	350.00
Quitman	700.00	Lower Big Fork	10.00	Cherry Valley	633.60	Total	2,670.58
Rose Bud	312.52	Mena 1st	3,658.89	Colt	255.00	<b>INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	
Westside	719.53	New Hope	66.70	Earle 1st	2,666.56	Total	59,994.68
Total	10,754.15	Salem	23.35	Fitzgerald	512.10	Grand Total	1,293,801.85

## News about missionaries

Miss Robin Ritger, missionary journeyman to India, has completed her term of service and may be addressed at 902 Hazelhurst, El Dorado, Ark. 71730, her hometown. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1972, she was graduated from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy L. Bullington, missionaries to Togo on furlough, may be addressed at Midwestern Seminary, 5001 N. Oak Trfwy., Kansas City, Mo. 64118. He is a native of Charleston, Ark.; she, the former Evelyn Robinson, was

born in San Antonio, Tex., and lived in Russellville, Ark. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1966, he was pastor of Leeds Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.

Miss Martha Perry, missionary journeyman to Rhodesia, has completed her term of service and returned to the States. She may be addressed at 509 Compton Ave., Laurel, Md. 20810. She was born in Mount Holly and lived in Columbus, N. J., and in Laurel and on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mis-

sion Board in 1972, she was graduated from Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Schleiff, missionaries to Rhodesia, may be addressed at P. O. Box 20, Gokwe, Rhodesia. Both from Arkansas, he was born in Fort Smith and lived in Charleston while growing up; his wife is the former Barbara Robertson of Monette. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967, he was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Hope, Ark.

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# God's redeeming grace

By Conway H. Sawyers  
Liberty Association

International  
June 30, 1974  
Ephesians 1:1-14



Sawyers

All of Paul's letters to the young churches are indeed an interesting study. The Book of Ephesians surely fits the category.

Verses 1 and 2 of this chapter are simply a salutation. The second verse includes the common form of greeting for that day, "grace and peace." While the greeting is in itself an interesting study, we shall not pursue it. Instead, we shall press on to the greater theme — God's redeeming grace.

### Our eternal choice to sonship (Eph. 1:3-6)

In verse 3 Paul begins what seems to be almost a hymn of praise. One can almost hear the chanting that is traditional among the Hebrew people, even today, as he begins to talk about the wondrous things which are properly classified as "spiritual blessings." God would seem to be saying that we are now, presently, the recipient of God's manifold blessings because we are hid with Christ in God's love. The phrase "heavenly places" occurs several times in this epistle. Here it would seem that it would not refer to heaven above or heaven in the future sense, but to salvation in Christ now which lifts us into a heavenly realm. In the very real sense we now sit with him in heavenly places. As believers who are abiding in Christ, we receive what God bestows upon us.

This experience of present fullness and blessing of God is a part of his eternal purpose. As verse 4 continues "even as he hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world." Paul is thinking throughout this epistle of God's grace as a secret that was long hidden because this was God's desire but it has now been fully revealed in Jesus Christ.

Verses 4 and 5 deal with the difficult subject of God's foreknowledge and foreordination. A careful study of this subject, not only in these verses but in the rest of Paul's writings, will help us to see that we are talking about God's choice and his knowledge which are not easily comprehended by man. We must remember that God is a free being and chooses the end and the means and the conditions without being subject to the limitations of man. He carries

out his own marvelous purpose. To whatever we attribute God's having "foreknown" and "predetermined" we must bear in mind that "those who seek him he will in no wise cast out."

In verse 6 Paul breaks out in praise to God at the thought of who God is and what he has done for man. It is he who knew us from eternity, who made room for us in redemption, and revealed his purpose for us in Christ. It is God's marvelous grace — his redeeming grace — that has made it possible for us to be accepted even though we are totally emersed and committed to sin. When God finds us in our sin we have no merit or goodness that would make us attractive to him and yet through the blood of Christ we become acceptable in his sight.

### The redemptive work of Christ (Eph. 1:7-12)

In verse 7 Paul speaks of our redemption being accomplished through the shedding of the blood of Christ. The idea of redemption has behind it the concept of release being effected by the paying of a ransom. The justice of God requires that the consequences of sin be paid for by someone. Jesus volunteered to be that someone. Out of the abundant riches of his grace God is now willing to forgive our sin when we ask for that forgiveness. The phrase "according to the riches of his grace" is similar to many other expressions in Paul's letters. To him grace is behind the whole movement of God in Christ redeeming the world.

In verse 8 he continues the thought "which he made to abound towards us in all wisdom and prudence." He is saying that God's grace has overflowed to us and in this overflowing it takes the form of "wisdom and prudence."

Verses 9, 10, and 11 deal again with the matter of God's foreknowledge and perhaps the question of "why now?" Paul does not clearly answer why God has chosen at this particular time to reveal himself more completely in Jesus. He simply says "according to his good pleasure" and it would seem wise for us to accept that this was God's purpose and we are simply grateful and happy that we are now a part of his redeeming grace.

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### The seal of the spirit (Eph. 1:12-14)

In verses 12-14 Paul talks about the results of redeeming grace. Have you ever seen a new Christian who was not happy? It may be that he did not shout or jump with excitement following a rebirth experience, but without exception those who find Christ as Savior and Lord are happy people.

Just as this is true about the one who has been saved, it is also true that this salvation experience is to bring forth praise to God. So the new Christian is happy not only for what he has but for what God has done. One who claims to know Christ and yet does not have joy in his heart needs to re-examine that experience.

Verse 13 and 14 give us the crowning result of the work of this redeeming grace and it is the sealing of all believers by the Holy Spirit. If one was inclined to not believe in the security of the believer, surely this passage would help him to see the certainty of salvation. Surely we are kept in his care from the moment of redemption until the time of that glorious resurrection when he shall claim all his own.

The Holy Spirit is God's spirit. He is God. He is glorious. He is forever to be praised.

In verse 14 Paul says "He is the earnest of our inheritance." Those who have bought a home or something of similar nature will know the meaning of "earnest." It is simply a downpayment indicating our intentions to finalize a bargain. An earnest is an advance payment which guarantees that all the rest shall be forthcoming. It is a pledge that the contract price will be paid.



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## God's eternal purpose

By Conway H. Sawyers  
Liberty Association



Sawyers

A study of Christian history will verify that it is a good thing, sometimes, for preachers to be put in jail. Had Bunyan not gone to jail we would not have his marvelous book, *Pilgrim's Progress*. The imprisonment of Paul and Silas at Phillippi with

their feet fast in the stocks resulted in the jailers salvation and no doubt the beginning of many new converts in that city.

This servant of the Lord who called himself "less than the least of the saints" was still big enough to go to jail without boasting about being a martyr and proclaiming himself a hero or suffering from an inferiority complex. He begins his paragraph by simply stating "for this cause I, Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles." The next 13 verses are actually nothing more than a long detour, however, he is not parading himself as someone special because of his predicament. He was in jail for the Gentiles because he was the apostle to the Gentiles and was now in prison for preaching the gospel.

### God's eternal purpose revealed (Eph. 3:3-9)

In beginning his digression, Paul writes "if so be that ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me to you-ward." The word "if" does not express doubt or uncertainty. It is a form of condition in the language that Paul was using which expects an affirmative answer. It might well be translated "if indeed ye heard, as I assume you did, of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me to you-ward." The word "you-ward" in the KJV simply means that Paul had received the dispensation of grace of God for them. It was God's message to them delivered by Paul.

In verse 3 he claims the revelation which was made to him about the "mystery" was not evolved from his inner consciousness. It was not Paul's intellectual capacity that thought it up, but it was God's appearing to him on the Damascus road which was interpreted to him by Ananias.

In verse 6 Paul reveals the heart of this "mystery." The thing that was most unbelievable to the Hebrew mind was that Gentiles could possibly be sought after

by God. The Hebrew people would receive Gentile people into their fellowship but they had to give up their Gentile identification and become "Jewish" in every sense. For Gentiles to be fellow-heirs and fellow-members of the body and fellow-partakers of the promise of God was difficult for them to accept. There is little wonder that Paul encountered difficulty when he began to preach that there is "neither Jew nor Gentile, bond nor free" in Christ. When he says all things are theirs in Christ it was difficult for the Jewish mind to accept.

In the next verse Paul identifies himself as "less than the least of all the saints" which would seem to be a genuine product of the grace of God in the heart of a believer. This would seem not to be false piety but genuine humility on the part of Paul. Throughout history men of great stature and effectiveness in God's service have been men of humility.

In verse 8 Paul shares with us that the eternal purpose of God has always been to include all men in his invitation to salvation. Paul speaks of the "unsearchable riches of Christ" he is including so many things it would take thousands of messages and preachers to even begin to scratch the surface on the meaning of these words. Some of those marvelous things would include: his diety, incarnation, virgin birth, sinless life, vicarious death, triumphant resurrection, unlimited compassion, his patience with sometimes inept disciples, his impatience with self-righteous Pharisees, his joy in bearing the cross, and many, many other things.

In verse 9 he continues the thought of proclaiming the unsearchable riches by adding "and to make all men see what is dispensation of the mystery." Proclaiming the gospel causes light to shine before men and there is no longer any concealment of the "mystery." The fact that he is proclaiming it is a part of the dispensation of the mystery itself. Of course, Paul is not saying that in his flesh and by the power of his voice he could open blind eyes and regenerate the hearts of men. Only the Holy Spirit of God can do this. But it is this proclamation of the truth that the

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International  
July 7, 1974  
Ephesians 3:1-13

Spirit of God employs to work the inward change in the hearts of men.

The latter part of verse 9 tells us again the purpose of God was an eternal one hidden in the secret councils of the past but now proclaimed to all the world. The phrase "who created all things" will remind us again of God's sovereignty and freedom in all that he does. The infinite Creator has a right to conceive and execute a plan so marvelous and there is also the idea of harmony between creation at large and the special redemptive work of God.

### Sharing God's eternal purpose (Eph. 3:10-13)

Most of us from the vantage point of twentieth century have a very limited concept of the breath and depth of the infinite range of God's purpose of grace. In verses 10-11 Paul states the ultimate aim of his preaching the gospel to the Gentiles and his enlightening all men regarding the stewardship of a world embracing redemption. The preaching of this gospel is to lie in the hands of the church.

The special instrument or institution that God is going to use to broadcast this message is going to be the church. Paul seems to be saying that the very existence of the church which makes it possible for men to be united in one body is in itself proof that God is gathering up all creation in Christ. The church then is viewed as a visible evidence of the purpose of God in the universe.

The long parentheses or digression begun in verse 2 is concluded in verse 13. The word "wherefore" seems to refer back to the entire exposition of God's purpose and Paul's involvement in it. He did not want his readers to loose heart concerning the great cause of Gentile evangelism. He was trying to show them that his imprisonment did not mean that the word of God was bound nor was his purpose frustrated. He also was saying that even his afflictions did not mean that he was out of the path of God's will. As a matter of fact, his sufferings were the direct consequences of his obedience to and his participation in the eternal purpose of God for the redemption of mankind. So instead of being discouraged by Paul's afflictions, he is telling them that they should glory in them. For they were in themselves evidence that God's purpose of grace was advancing toward his design and purpose.

# Cultivating Christian virtues

By C. W. Brockwell Jr.  
Calvary Church, NLR

Life and Work  
June 30, 1974  
James 5:7-20



Brockwell

As a 10 year old boy I tried to cut down a tree with a dull hatchet and cut my knee instead. Infection soon set in, confining me to bed for three months. Were it not for the grace of God and a persistent doctor, I would have lost my leg.

Meanwhile, I also forgot how to walk and had to learn all over again. It took a lot of coaching and practice.

We never knew how to walk until Christ came. He showed us the steps of love, the coordination of praise and thanksgiving, and the strength of humility.

James was very much concerned with the way Christians walked or lived. He felt too many were limping from sin. He noticed a lot of Christians being handicapped by their own wrongdoing. Of course, their pace was also slowed by the conduct of the wicked rich but James believed even that could be corrected by four actions on the part of Christians. They are patience, speech, prayer and service. These actions or virtues will greatly improve your walk in Christ. They are ordinary virtues one would expect of a Christian.

### Wait on the Lord

Some Christians, relates James, were suffering more than others so they naturally questioned the devotion of the brother who escaped suffering. Indeed, they grumbled over the unfairness of it all. Sound familiar? James understood so he cited three experiences as well as a command to quit grumbling.

### Speak as to the Lord

The second virtue a Christian should cultivate relates to speech. Sins of speech were about the most common types of sin in James' day. Times haven't changed much for we still do what the Indians called "speaking with a forked tongue." We also waste a lot of words trying to convince people we are telling the truth. "I bet you this" and "I bet you that" are quite common as well as stronger oaths not suitable for print, much less thought. You see, we have been caught so many times on the wrong side of truth that we are constantly pressed to find a word or words to prop up what we are saying.

In short, if you must say something, say it to the Lord. He is the only one

who can do something about the situation anyway.

### Pray to the Lord

Tradition has it that James prayed so much that his knees were worn hard as a camel's. He spoke from experience. The afflicted are to pray and ask others to pray also. The affliction, whether sickness or suffering, may be a means of getting us to pray. It is certainly a proper condition for praying.

The afflicted are to call upon the spiritual leaders to come and pray with them. Why wait and hope the pastor hears about your difficulty? Request that he and other spiritual persons come and pray for you. The accomplishment in terms of help will be worth it.

Whatever the significance of the oil is, (medicinal remedy, symbol of healing, or an aid to faith) it is not the key to healing. The prayer of faith is what matters. Neither does it say the lack of faith comes from the sick but from those praying for the sick. Of course, we know God does not choose to keep us alive forever upon earth; so it is not always his will that we be healed. It is therefore our responsibility to pray for God's will to be done.

Confession of sin plays an important role in the healing and help. If the "elders" are truly righteous men, there will be no problem of anyone letting his sins be known. The afflicted and the ones praying for the afflicted are to enter into this confession. And if the men are as righteous in practice as they are in position, God will hear and answer according to his best plans. Remember, God always answers our prayers in the way that is best for his will and our good.

Lest anyone hesitate to even ask for God's help, James cites the example of Elijah. He, too, was only a man, but God heard his plea and he will do the same for us. In spite of his weakness, Elijah yielded his life to God and accomplished a great deal through prayer. So may we!

### Serve the Lord

The last words of James relate to our service to the Lord — service which means reaching out to help a fellow Christian. There is no better way to show love and compassion than to lift up a righteous person who has fallen victim to temptation. Censure is easy,

rejection is common, but love is the answer. What would have happened to you if someone had not helped you back up? How many times are you going to need help today and tomorrow?

There are two rewards associated with reclaiming a fallen brother. First, you will see a spiritually useless man become useful again. He will count for God on earth rather than being cut off in death. Second, you will see many sins buried in forgiveness. No one can help his brother unless he realizes he could very well be in the same shape as his brother were it not for the grace of God. Thus confession is easier because pride is weakened by compassion shown to others.

### Conclusion

James began his letter by identifying himself as a servant of the Lord. He closes it by giving us the opportunity to likewise show ourself to be a servant of the Lord by reaching out to others. There is no stronger appeal to those outside of Christ than to see Christians loving and restoring their own who have fallen. If Jesus could restore a stubborn man like Peter who swore three times that he did not know the Lord, could not we also forgive? The most tragic sight on earth is to see two Christians refuse to forgive one another. Christianity is simply the way of Christ.

There are but two questions in life. (1) Are you a Christian? (2) Are you Christian?

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## Is God real?

By Harold Elmore

Pastor, Park Place Church, Hot Springs



Elmore

The Bible does not argue the fact of the existence of God. Genesis begins with the statement "In the beginning God." The rest of the Bible proves this statement to be true.

Man cannot prove the reality of God by scientific argument. He can only prove the existence of an intelligent, powerful being capable of creating and sustaining our universe. The reality of a personal God can only be proven by experience. The writer of Hebrews tells us that if a man wants to prove the existence of God, that the place to begin is faith. By faith we believe that God is and that He will make himself known. When man accepts the existence of God and steps out on His promises by faith, God has never failed to reveal himself.

In our lesson today, the Psalmist points up some things about the personal attributes of God. These are things he has experienced as he has sought after God.

### He knows me

Man's knowledge of God is based on revelation. God has made himself known to man through nature and in human experience. In man's need, God has revealed himself, meeting man's need and leading him step by step into a fuller revelation of himself. In this way man has learned all he knows about God. The Bible is the inspired record of these experiences.

God's knowledge of man is based on his eternal nature. He is the all wise, all knowing God. The Psalmist says that God knew him even before he was born.

God's knowledge of me extends to every area of life. He knows my weakness and my strength. He knows my failures and my success. He knows my secret thoughts. It is impossible to hide anything from him. I may not always be aware of his presence, but he is always present and waiting for me to recognize him. There is no place in the universe I can go that he is not there. The recent experience of our astronauts who reported abundant evidence of God's presence in outer space is a witness to this truth.

### He wants me

The heart of this Psalm is in verse seven. "Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid Thy hand upon me." The Psalmist is aware of the presence of a personal God who wants to have fellowship with him. This fact makes life meaningful and worthwhile. This is also a great mystery to him. Why would a holy God want to have fellowship with sinful man? How can God love him? God knows all about his sin and although he is not worthy of God's love, God loves him and wants him for his own. How can this be? Because he is God.

The fact that God took the initiative in making himself known says he loves me and wants to have fellowship with me. The fact that he made me with the capacity to know him and gave me the ability to respond to him is further proof of his love.

God's final and complete revelation of himself in Jesus Christ tells me how much he loves me. The more I know about God, the more I am convinced of his love for me and his desire to have me for his own.

### I want him

There are two things that create in me a hunger to know and have fellowship with God. First, his love for me in making himself known to me. Everything God does has my redemption at the center. He loves me and calls me to himself. Second, the more I know of his love the more conscious I become of my sin and need of forgiveness. He has made me with the capacity to know him, but my sin has separated us. It is my sin that is keeping me from him. The consciousness of sin and its eternal consequence creates in me a hunger for God.

My sin and his love has brought me to the place that my whole being cries out for him. I cannot find peace apart from him.

### I choose him

God does not force himself on me. He reveals himself to me. He tells me he loves me. He proves his love by providing for my redemption. The choice is mine. He speaks to me, convinces me of my need of him and invites me

to give myself to him.

Out of the depths of my sin I choose him. Not only do I choose him as my saviour but I ask him to be my Lord. Verses 22 and 23 become the prayer of my life. "Search me, O God, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."



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**"Your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest!"**

Luke, 6:35



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## Attendance report

June 16, 1974

Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Ch. adms.
Alexander, First	75	32	2
Alpena	76	19	
Bentonville, First	220		
Berryville			
First	158	56	
Freeman Heights	131	53	
Rock Springs	99	68	
Bryant, First Southern	39	18	
Camden, First	381	72	1
Concord, First	83	33	
Conway, Second	339	66	2
Crossett			
First	479	125	
Mount Olive	332	151	7
Ft. Smith			
First	1204	202	5
Grand Avenue	756	281	3
Moffett Mission	16		
Temple	128	63	
Trinity	173	55	
Windsor Park	650	199	6
Garfield, First	67	31	2
Gentry, First	158	63	
Grandview	67	66	
Greenwood, First	276	94	1
Hampton, First	116	59	
Harrison			
Eagle Heights	318	120	
Woodland Heights	66	28	
Helena, First	210	98	
Hope			
Calvary	179	61	6
First	357	70	
Hot Springs			
Grand Avenue	413	188	2
Leonard Street	73	54	
Park Place	342	86	1
Hughes, First	148	44	1
Jacksonville			
First	382	81	
Marshall Road	297	108	
Jonesboro, Nettleton	240	82	2
Kingston, First	55	38	
Lavaca, First	275	118	1
Lexa	139	57	
Little Rock			
Crystal Hill	158	110	
Geyer Springs	598	162	8
Life Line	482	139	5
Martindale	111	55	
Shady Grove	83	59	3
Sunset Lane	205	123	12
Woodlawn	110	49	
Magnolia, Central	479	162	5
Monticello			
First	271	52	2
Second	259	70	
Murfreesboro, First	130	57	
North Little Rock			
Calvary	357	95	1
Gravel Ridge	172	78	5
Levy	404	71	4
Park Hill	639	81	
Paragould			
Calvary	233	150	
East Side	208	95	
Paris, First	363	75	2
Pine Bluff			
First	540	58	
Green Meadows	45	28	
Second	131	51	1
South Side	549	94	2
Tucker	12	12	
Oppelo	23	10	
Watson Chapel	253	66	5
Prairie Grove, First	142	65	
Rogers			
First	494	63	
Immanuel	342	125	5
Russellville			
First	450		6
Second	174		
Springdale			
Berry Street	94	47	6
Caudle Avenue	125	45	
Elmdale	397	57	3
Oak Grove	76	25	
Van Buren, First	485	143	1
Mission	35		
Vandervoort, First	61	33	
Warren, Immanuel	228	101	
West Helena			
Second	180	97	1
West Helena Church	247	68	
Wooster, First	94	60	

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## A smile or two

A railroad engineer stopped at a small whistle stop and asked which was the best restaurant in town. The local native put it this way. "Whichever one you go to, you will wish you had gone to the other one."

About the only thing you can do today on a shoestring is trip.

The old man and his wife had saved money for a long time to buy an auto. At last they got it and took their first drive; they soon had a number of mishaps; each time, the old gent took out his driver's license and looked at it with care. "Hiram, why do you look at that so much?" "For reassurance, Mary, for reassurance. This license says that I am competent to operate an automobile."

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## New 'Baptist Hymnal' revealed at SBC Church Music Convention

DALLAS, June 10 — Unveiling of the contents of the *Baptist Hymnal* revision and the premieres of a children's musical and a commissioned anthem were among highlights of the two-day annual Southern Baptist Church Music Conference which closed here Monday.

William J. Reynolds, secretary of the Sunday School Board's church music department and editor of *Baptist Hymnal*, 1975 edition, revealed the table of contents which features 187 hymns and 175 hymn tunes new to the hymnal.

The 495 total hymns span a variety of musical styles. While familiar and widely-used hymns have been retained, other familiar hymns not included in the 1956 edition of *Baptist Hymnal*, Negro spirituals, and the works of contemporary authors and composers have been added.

*Baptist Hymnal* (1975 edition) was compiled by a committee of 68 Southern Baptists. Included are pastors from both large and small churches, ministers of music, ministers of education, faculty members from colleges and seminaries, state music secretaries, evangelistic singers, church organists, professionals from the recording and music publishing industry, composers and representatives of denominational agencies.

The premier of a new children's musical from Broadman Press, *Jonah's Tale of a Whale*, by Robert Graham was presented by the children's choir of First Church, Garland, Tex., under the direction of Harrell Slack.

A second premier for the conference was the Conference commissioned anthem for 1974, "Praise God in His Holiness," by the late composer James

Cram of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, performed by the Southwestern Seminary Oratorio Chorus, Robert Burton, director.

A service of praise, led by the Centurymen under the direction of Buryl Red of New York included performances by concert artists Robert Hale and Dean Wilder of the New York City Opera and by the Dallas Baptist College Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Doug Smith.

A tribute to Jane Marshall, composer of sacred music, featured the singing of her compositions by the sanctuary choir of First Church, Shawnee, Okla., under the direction of James Woodward.

The concluding event of the conference was a presentation of William Walton's "Belshazzar's Feast" by the Oratorio Chorus of Southwestern Seminary and by the Ft. Worth Oratorio Symphony.

Composer-arranger Rick Powell of Nashville discussed "Electronic Music and the Church." Separate "interest sessions" provided emphases on contemporary worship, adult choirs, music and worship and instrumental music. A session on children's choirs featured a demonstration of music-learning activities with children from the Southwestern Seminary children's choir school.

Jesse Fletcher, director of the mission support division, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, spoke at a banquet honoring music missionaries, followed by presentation of the W. Hines Sims Achievement Award for distinguished service to the cause of church music to Warren M. Angell, dean emeritus of the Warren M. Angell

College of Fine Arts, Oklahoma Baptist University.

Keynote address for the conference was given by John Claypool, pastor of Broadway Church, Ft. Worth, on "Worship as Event."

Honorary lifetime memberships were presented to Loren Williams, Broadman music sales specialist at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, and to Mrs. Frances Winters of the music faculty at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Newly-elected vice presidents of the organization are A. Joseph King, minister of music at University Church, Ft. Worth, local church division, Sam Prestidge, music secretary for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, denominational division; and Evelyn M. Phillips of the school of church music, Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, educational division.

President Donald Brown, music professor at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., has another full year in his term of office.

The conference featured exhibits from major sacred music publishers, sound companies, and Baptist institutions and agencies.

The music conference is held annually for professional church musicians and music faculty members in SBC institutions, denominational workers in music for associate members interested in church music.



**PERFORMING CENTURYMEN** — The Centurymen, a singing group of 100 ministers of music, performed before the Convention and each of the auxiliary meetings during the week. The group is directed by Buryl Red. (Knolan Benfield Photo)

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